

willing to continue serving on the Board.

(b) Any ten or more growers eligible to serve in the grower member positions specified in § 984.35(a)(3) and (4) or § 984.35(b)(4) and (5) and who marketed an aggregate of 500 or more tons of walnuts through handlers who did not handle 35% or more of the crop during the marketing year preceding the year in which Board nominations are held, may petition the Board to include on the nomination ballot for a district the name of an eligible candidate for the applicable position, and the name of an eligible candidate to serve as his or her alternate. The names of the eligible candidates proposed pursuant to this paragraph shall be included on the ballot together with the names of any incumbents who are willing to continue serving on the Board.

(c) Petitions made pursuant to paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall be on forms supplied by the Board and filed no later than April 1 of the nomination year.

[41 FR 54476, Dec. 14, 1976, as amended at 73 FR 73997, Dec. 5, 2008; 74 FR 9047, Mar. 2, 2009]

§ 984.445 Procedures for voting by mail, e-mail, telephone, video-conference, facsimile, or any other means of communication.

(a) Whenever the Board votes upon any proposition by mail, e-mail, or facsimile, at least six members or alternates acting as members must vote and one dissenting vote shall prevent its adoption. Each proposition to be voted upon by mail, e-mail, or facsimile shall specify a time limit for members to vote, after which the alternates shall be given the opportunity to vote.

(b) Whenever the Board conducts meetings by telephone, video-conference, or any technology that enables member interaction, the vote shall be conducted by roll call.

[75 FR 1527, Jan. 12, 2010]

§ 984.450 Grade and size regulations.

(a) *Minimum kernel content requirements for inshell walnuts for reserve disposition credit.* For purposes of §§ 984.54 and 984.56, no lot of inshell walnuts may be held, exported, or disposed of for use by governmental agencies or charitable institutions unless it meets

the minimum requirements for merchantable inshell walnuts effective pursuant to § 984.50(a). The disposition of any lot of inshell walnuts pursuant to § 984.64 having at least a certified kernelweight of not less than 10 percent of the inshell weight of the lot may be credited against a handler's reserve obligation.

(b) *Minimum kernel content requirements for shelled walnuts for reserve disposition credit.* For the purposes of §§ 984.54 and 984.56, no lot of shelled walnuts may be held, exported, or disposed of for use by government agencies or charitable institutions unless it meets the minimum requirements for merchantable shelled walnuts effective pursuant to § 984.50(b). The disposition of any lot of shelled walnuts pursuant to § 984.64 having at least a certified kernelweight of kernels six sixty-fourths of an inch or larger of not less than 10 percent of the total weight of the lot may be credited against a handler's reserve obligation: *Provided*, That such minimum kernel content requirements shall not apply to any lot of walnut meal certified by the designated inspection service as having been derived from chopping, slicing, or dicing merchantable shelled

(c) *Inspection and certification of shelled walnuts that are manufactured into products.* For purposes of §§ 984.50(d) and 984.52(c), shelled walnuts may be cut or diced without prior inspection and certification: *Provided*, That the end product, except for walnut meal, is inspected and certified. For purposes of this section, *end product* shall be defined as walnut pieces equal to or larger than eight sixty-fourths of an inch in diameter. *Walnut meal* shall be defined as walnut pieces smaller than eight sixty-fourths of an inch in diameter.

(1) *End product.* End product must be sized, inspected and certified, and the size must be noted on the inspection certificate. The end product quality must be equal to or better than the minimum requirements of U.S. Commercial grade as defined in the United States Standards for Shelled Walnuts (*Juglans regia*).

(2) *Walnut meal.* Walnut meal that is accumulated during the cutting and dicing of shelled walnuts to create end